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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/461,192	12/15/1999	TORU TAKAHASHI	500.38010X00	3469

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EXAMINER
ROMERO, ALMARI DEL CARMEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/461,192	Applicant(s) TAKAHASHI ET AL.
	Examiner Almari Romero	Art Unit 2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11 February 2000* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *15 December 1999* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *2* .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Application filed on 12/15/99, IDS filed on

12/15/99, and Priority papers filed on 02/11/00.

2.   Claims 1-20 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 7, 17, 18, 19, and 20 are independent

claims.

Priority

3.   Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers

have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

4.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 12/15/99 has been considered

by the examiner.

Drawings

5.   The formal drawings filed on 12/15/99 were approved by the Draftsperson.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 1-12, 14-15, and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over Ferrel et al. (USPN 6,199,082 B1 – filed on 07/1995).

Regarding independent claims 1, 17, and 19, Ferrel et al. (Ferrel) discloses:

A structured document managing method of managing a structured document formed by a

plurality of elements, comprising:

a data content updating step in which any file forming a registered document is selected

as an object of updating from relationship data indicating an entity structure and a logical

structure of the registered document and the data content of the selected update object file is

updated (Ferrel on col. 8, lines 15-29: teaches content and design are stored as objects to be

selected by the publishers; on col. 10, lines 37-63: teaches title comprises content associated with

the design (relationship) and wherein title is changed by updating content which is placed on

various folders or containers);

a partial relationship data generating step of generating partial relationship data indicating

an entity structure and a logical structure of the update object file after updating (Ferrel on col. 5,

lines 29-41 and col. 10, lines 37-63: teaches the content can be updated separately without the

need to also update the design); and

a relationship data updating step of updating relationship data of the registered document

by use of the generated partial relationship data (Ferrel on col. 5, lines 29-41, col. 10, lines 37-

63, and col. 19, lines 34-51: teaches updating the project of layout and layout objects).

Ferrel on col. 4, lines 13-30 and col. 53, lines 1-63: teaches the title is in data structure

which can be formatted in HTML or SGML; the title (design) is divided into sections (as the

logical structure); and wherein the content objects such as graphics, audio, video, and so forth (as the entity structure) can be inserted into the title in the appropriate section.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Ferrel to incorporate the content objects inserted into the title as the entity structure and the title divided into sections as the logical structure of a document in order to facilitate the updating of content object separately without the need to update the title design.

Regarding dependent claim 2, Ferrel discloses:

wherein in said data content updating step, the data content of said update object file is subjected to edition by an external program and is thereafter replaced by data content after updating edited by said external program (Ferrel on col. 10, lines 37-63: teaches updating content and hand placing updated content on the title design).

Regarding dependent claim 3, Ferrel discloses:

wherein the generation of the partial relationship data in said partial relationship data generating step is made by analyzing the update object file after updating in the case where said update object file is a document file or a text file and by setting the data content after updating itself in the case where said update object file is neither a document file nor a text file (Ferrel on col. 10, lines 37-63, col. 18, lines 19-29, and col. 53, lines 1-63: teaches testing the title after updating content and design; wherein the updated content can be graphic, audio, or video).

Regarding dependent claims 4 and 14, Ferrel discloses:

further comprising a document syntax analyzing step of generating syntax analysis result

data indicating a file structure and parsed instance data of said update object file, and a

relationship data extracting step of associating each file forming said update object file with

a logical structure portion obtained by the parsed instance data to generate partial relationship

data (Ferrel on col. 10, lines 37-63, col. 18, lines 19-29, and col. 53, lines 1-63: teaches testing

updated title and parsing instance of a title).

Regarding dependent claims 5 and 8, Ferrel discloses:

further comprising a corresponding sub-region determining step of determining that sub-

region of the relationship data of the registered document which corresponds to said update

object file, and wherein in said relationship data updating step, the relationship data of the

registered document is updated by replacing relationship data of the determined sub-region by

said partial relationship data of said update object file (Ferrel on col. 8, lines 15-29 and col. 53,

lines 1-63: teaches title (design) is divided into sections to insert or place updated content and

design and on col. 10, lines 37-63: teaches updated content is associated with the title design of

sections (relationship)).

Regarding dependent claims 6 and 9, Ferrel discloses:

wherein a lock is set for said update object file to exclusively perform an edition

processing for said update object file (Ferrel on col. 18, lines 19-29: teaches test pressing the title

to determine everything looks and works correctly, once everything is satisfied the title is

released to a network server, in other words, no changes or updates can be done at this time).

Regarding independent claim 7, 18, and 20, Ferrel discloses:

A structured document managing method of managing a structured document described by use

of a document markup language, comprising:

a logical structure editing step of selecting any logical structure of a registered document

as an object of updating from relationship data indicating an entity structure and a logical

structure of the registered document and subjecting the selected logical structure to edition

(Ferrel on col. 8, lines 15-29: teaches content and design are stored as objects to be selected by

the publishers; on col. 10, lines 37-63: teaches title comprises content associated with the design

(relationship) and wherein the content can be updated separately from the title design);

an edition result data generating step of generating edition result data in which partial

relationship data indicating an entity structure and a logical structure of a file existing in the

region of said logical structure subjected to edition is described in a character string form (Ferrel

col. 10, lines 37-63 and col. 53, lines 1-63: teaches update content objects (MPML, graphics,

audio, video)without the need to also update the design; wherein the title design is divided into

sections to insert updated content objects);

corresponding data content updating step of replacing the data content of said file by the

generated edition result data (Ferrel on col. 10, lines 37-63: teaches updating content and hand

placing updated content on the title design); and

a relationship data updating step of updating relationship data of the registered document

by use of the generated partial relationship data (Ferrel on col. 5, lines 29-41, col. 10, lines 37-

63, and col. 19, lines 34-51: teaches updating the project of layout and layout objects).

Ferrel on col. 4, lines 13-30 and col. 53, lines 1-63: teaches the title is in data structure

which can be formatted in HTML or SGML; the title (design) is divided into sections (as the

logical structure); and wherein the content objects such as graphics, audio, video, and so forth (as the entity structure) can be inserted into the title in the appropriate section.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Ferrel to incorporate the content objects inserted into the title as the entity structure and the title divided into sections as the logical structure of a document in order to facilitate the updating of content object separately without the need to update the title design.

Regarding dependent claims 10 and 15, Ferrel discloses:

wherein the control of access to the object of updating is made, for each node set established corresponding to a file structure possessed by the registered document, in accordance with an attribute of that node set (Ferrel on col. 56, lines 11-34: teaches title parse tree of nodes).

Regarding dependent claim 11, Ferrel discloses:

wherein a processing for updating is made with an object of edition taken out in units of a file forming the registered document (Ferrel on col. 5, lines 29-41 and col. 10, lines 37-63: teaches content can be retrieved from the title design for updating).

Regarding dependent claim 12, Ferrel discloses:

wherein the edition of the registered document is made by taking out a plurality of objects of edition separately so that they are subjected to edition in parallel with each other and registering the objects of edition after updating again (Ferrel on col. 5, lines 29-41 and col. 10, lines 37-63: updating a plurality of content separately and on col. 8, lines 15-29: teaches content is associated with page layout).

8.   **Claims 13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferrel et al., as applied to claims 1-12, 14-15, and 17-20 above, in view of Fogg et al. (USPN 6,321,242 B1 – filed on 02/1998).**

Regarding dependent claims 13 and 16, Ferrel discloses the invention substantially as claimed as described *supra*. However, Ferrel does not explicitly disclose "a digital signature".

Fogg et al. (Fogg) on col. 7, lines 11-28: teaches using digital signature to provide update permissions for updating links in the documents.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Fogg into Ferrel to provide digital signatures as update permissions, as taught by Fogg, incorporated into the updating of a title design containing content objects, as taught by Ferrel, in order to increase the security of updating documents among a plurality of users.

Conclusion

9.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

USPN 6,061,697 – Nakao – filed on 08/1997

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Almari Romero whose telephone number is (703) 305-5945. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays - Fridays (7:30am - 4:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (703) 308-5186. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

AR
April 4, 2003

HEATHER R. HERNDON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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